

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO CLAIMS

Amendments to the Claims:

1.-24. (canceled)

25. (currently amended) A method of producing a dielectric multilayer mirror coating comprising the steps of producing at least two dielectric layers of predetermined initial thicknesses,

arranging the dielectric layers one above the other to form a stack of layers,

arranging the stack of layers between two base layers to form a sandwich block,

reducing the thickness of the sandwich block, while maintaining the thickness ratio or thickness ratios of the dielectric layers relative to one another,

wherein at least one of the base layers is formed of a plurality of individual layers which are built up by sequentially arranging the individual layers in an overlying relationship, and

wherein the step of reducing the thickness of the sandwich block includes ~~partially~~ deforming the individual layers which form the at least one base layer ~~step by step~~ each time after one of the individual layers is arranged to overlie a preceding layer, wherein one of the individual layers is arranged to overlie a preceding layer then partially reducing the thickness of the sandwich block, and repeating the arranging and reducing steps until the last of the individual layers is applied.

26. (previously presented) The method of Claim 25 wherein the initial thicknesses of the at least two dielectric layers are different.

27. (previously presented) The method of Claim 25 wherein at least one dielectric layer of the stack comprises glass or plastic.

28. (previously presented) The method of Claim 25 wherein the at least two dielectric layers have different indices of refraction.

29. (previously presented) The method of Claim 25 wherein the at least two dielectric layers form a double layer.

30. (previously presented) The method of Claim 29 wherein at least two double layers are stacked.

31. (previously presented) The method of Claim 30 wherein the thickness varies from double layer to double layer.

32. (currently amended) The method of Claim 25 wherein the step of arranging the dielectric layers one above the other includes a stacking and/or roll-up of the layers.

33. (previously presented) The method of Claim 25 wherein the two base layers comprise glass.

34. (previously presented) The method of Claim 25 wherein the dielectric layers are joined by fusion after arranging the stack of dielectric layers between two base layers.

35. (previously presented) The method of Claim 34 wherein the step of joining the layers by fusion occurs under vacuum.

36. (currently amended) The method of Claim 25 wherein the step of reducing the thickness of ~~deforming~~ the sandwich block includes a pressing or rolling or drawing operation.

37. (currently amended) The method of Claim 36 wherein the step of reducing the thickness of ~~deforming~~ the sandwich block further includes the application of heat.

38. (previously presented) The method of Claim 25 comprising the further subsequent step of forming the resulting block into a tube or curved configuration.

39. (previously presented) The method of Claim 38 wherein the step of forming the resulting block into a tube or curved configuration includes positioning the resulting block adjacent an inner surface of the tube or curved configuration.

40. (currently amended) The method of Claim 25 comprising the further step of applying the dielectric multilayer mirror coating on one of the ~~[[a]]~~ base layers ~~body~~.

41. (currently amended) The method of Claim 25 wherein the individual layers of the at least one of the base layers are fused together during the step of reducing the thickness of the sandwich block ~~partial deformation steps~~.